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SOURCE Czechoslovak newspapers as indicated.

PHONE SERVICE TO BE EXPANDED

IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED -- Lidove Noviny, No 89, 15 Apr 49

Prague telephones are overloaded primarily because they are used unnecessarily. Telephones in Prague are used considerably more than in other countries. In Zurich, Switzerland, for example, each subscriber uses his telephone on an average of 3.5 times daily, while in Prague the average is 14 times a day.

During Correct Telephoning Week, now being observed, it should be remembered that each word spoken over the telephone costs money. From 0900 to 1200 and 1400 to 1600 the use of the telephone should be reserved for business purposes.

Svobodne Slovo, No 89, 15 Apr 49

The telephon. central offices of Greater Prague will be expanded in the coming years. The Prague Central in SIA will be expanded by 2,000 connections, and the Vrsovice central will also have 2,000 more connections. Work on the Prague central began in January, and work on the Vrsovice central will begin in May. Smaller centrals, such as those in Branik, Kro, Mairany, Radotin, and Zbraslav, will be increased by a total of 960 connections. An expansion of 10,000 connections is planned for 1950 in Central Prague, and 4,000 connections for Dejvice. In 1951 the Liben central will be expanded by 3,000 new connections, and a new 2,000-connection central will be constructed in Kosire. In all, 23,340 new connections are to be made in Greater Prague. This will mean an investment of 150 million crowns for the centrals and 200 million for equipment. The equipment has already been ordered from Tesla.

Svobodne Slovo, No 85, 10 Apr 49

In 1948, 120,000 telephones were repaired in Prague. About 590,000 conversations are conducted by telephones daily in Prague alone.

The present capacity of the eight Prague telephone centrals is 66,835 connections. These centrals connect about 60,200 subscribers.

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NEW TELEPHONE DIRECTORY -- Svobodne Slovo, No 24, 9 Apr 49

New telephone directories will soon replace the old ones, which are already 30 percent incorrect. Directories will be issued only for individual kraj, instead of for provinces, thus saving 12 carloads of paper. The Prague directory will have 700 pages, and 110,000 copies will be issued.

Postal workers have begun collecting waste paper all over Czechoslovakia. Tens of thousands of postmen are collecting the 30 carloads necessary to print the new directories.

By collecting 600 tons of nonferrous metals last fall, valued at 3,300,000 crowns, the postal workers aided the further growth of the telephone system throughout Czechoslovakia.

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